In the Claims

We claim:

1.(Currently Amended) A quick-coupling device for male (14E) and female (20) members~~, of the type~~ comprising a support (18) on which the female member (20) is mounted such that it can move between a position of retaining the male member (14E) in a position fitted into the female member (20) and a position of releasing the male member (14E) from the female member (20), characterized in that ~~it~~ the device comprises a lever (24) articulated to the support (18) between a rest position, separated from the female member (20), and a position of collaboration with the female member (20), allowing ~~this~~ the female member (20) to be driven toward its position in which it releases the male member (14E).

2.(Currently Amended) The device according to claim 1, characterized in that the lever (24) comprises means (26) for guiding the male member (14E), these being positioned on ~~this~~ the lever (24) in such a way as to encourage guidance of the male member (14E) to mate ~~it~~ with the female member (20) when the lever (24) is in the rest position.

3.(Currently Amended) The device according to claim 2, characterized in that the means (26) for guiding the male member (14E) comprise a guide eye (28) delimited by an annular surface converging toward the female member (20) ~~when considering~~ with the lever (24) in the rest position.

4.(Currently Amended) The device according to claim 3, characterized in that the lever (24) ~~is of the second kind and~~ comprises a first end (24A) articulated about a geometric axis (T) associated with the support (18), a second end (24B) for the application of an operating force and ~~an active part~~ the guide eye (28) for collaboration with the female member (20) when the female member (20) is inserted between the first (24A) and second (24B) ends of the lever (24).

5.(Currently Amended) The device according to claim 4, further characterized ~~in that it comprises~~ by means (30~~; 42~~) ~~of~~ for elastically returning the lever (24) to a position in which the lever (24) is separated from the female member (20).

6.(Currently Amended) The device according to claim 5, further characterized ~~in that it comprises~~ by releasable means (32, 34) ~~of~~ for retaining the lever (24) in the rest position, ~~these~~ said retaining means opposing the elastic force of the means (30~~; 42~~) of returning the lever (24).

7.(Original) The device according to claim 6, characterized in that the retaining means comprise complementary trapping members (32, 34) borne by the support (18) and the lever (24), allowing the lever (24) some excursion between its rest position and its position of collaboration with the female member (20).

8.(Currently Amended) The device according to claim 7, characterized in that ~~the retaining means comprise~~ a trapping member (32) borne by the support (18) and equipped with two branches (32A, 32B) is roughly parallel to the direction of excursion of the lever (24), ~~collaborating~~ collaborates with a trapped member (34) borne by the lever (24), ~~the~~ said retaining means being releasable by parting the branches (32A, 32B) of the trapping member.

9.(Currently Amended) The device according to claim ~~8~~ 6, characterized in that the lever (24) is connected to the support (18) by a tab (30) formed as an integral part of ~~this~~ the lever (24) and this support (18), forming a hinge for the articulation of ~~the~~ this lever (24).

10.(Currently Amended) The device according to claim 9, characterized in that the tab (30) forms the means of elastically returning the lever (24).

11.(Currently Amended) The device according to claim ~~8~~ 3, characterized in that the lever (24) is connected to the support (18) by hinge-forming means comprising two parts, one fixed (36) and one moving (38), forming hinge leaves formed respectively on the support

(18) and on the lever (24), these fixed (36) and moving (38) parts being articulated to one another by a pin (40).

12.(Currently Amended) The device according to claim 11, characterized in that ~~the~~ a means of elastically returning the lever (24) comprise a spring-forming member (42) working in compression, inserted between the lever (24) and the support (18).

13.(Original) The device according to claim 12, characterized in that the spring-forming member (42) comprises an elastically deformable bow equipped with two ends (42A, 42B) secured to the lever (24) and with an intermediate part (42I) for contact with the support (18).

14.(Currently Amended) The device according to claim 13, for connecting ~~characterized in that it is intended to connect~~ two male members (14E) to two female members (20)[,] wherein the support (18) bearing the two female members (20) and the lever (24) ~~being intended to collaborate with both~~ simultaneously collaborates with said female members (20) ~~simultaneously~~.

15.(Currently Amended) The device according to claim 14, characterized in that the lever (24) ~~is intended to collaborate~~ collaborates with an end flange (22) of the female member (20).

16.(Currently Amended) The device according to claim 15, characterized in that ~~the~~ each male member (14E) forms a pipe endpiece (14) formed as an integral part of or attached to this pipe.

17.(Currently Amended) An assembly forming a brake fluid reservoir for a motor vehicle braking system~~, of the type~~ comprising a brake fluid receptacle (12) connected to at least one brake fluid pipe (14), characterized in that the pipe endpiece (14) is connected to ~~the~~ said receptacle (12) by a quick-coupling device (16) according to claim 16[,] and the support (18) of the female member (20) ~~being~~ is integral with the receptacle (12).

In the Abstract

ABSTRACT

[0035] A quick-coupling device ~~comprises~~ having a support (18) on which ~~the~~ a female member (20) is mounted in a manner to ~~such that it can~~ move between a position of retaining ~~the~~ a male member (14E) in a position fitted into the female member (20) to ~~and~~ a position of releasing the male member (14E) from the female member (20). This device ~~also comprises~~ has a lever (24) articulated to the support (18) between a rest position, separated from the female member (20)~~, and~~ to a position of collaboration that allows with the female member (20)~~, allowing this female member (20)~~ to be driven toward ~~its~~ a position in which ~~it releases~~ the male member (14E) is released. ~~As a preference, the~~ The lever (24) ~~comprises means~~ includes structure (26) for guiding the male member (14E)~~, these being positioned on this lever (24)~~ in such a way as to encourage guidance of the male member (14E) to mate ~~it~~ with the female member (20) when the lever (24) is in the rest position.